Customs.—In view of the increased demand for lemon-grass oil, its tariff value was raised from Re. 1 to Rs. 5 per lb. and the duty from 1 to 2½ per cent.

18. **Sanitation.**—The number of births registered was 41,825 and that of deaths 31,740. 1,58,661 persons were vaccinated during the year, of whom 8,932 were infants. The year was quite free from cholera, but small-pox prevailed in an epidemic form in the North. All vaccinators and conservancy overseers were during the year supplied with Sir Lauder Brunton's snake-bite outfits, and it is satisfactory to note that all the sixteen cases of snake-bite treated were successfully cured.

19. **Medical Relief.**—The permanent medical institutions consisted of 23 hospitals, 21 dispensaries, 2 asylums (one for lunatics and one for lepers) and 10 aided institutions.

As a result of the Medical Conference held in July 1905 an Ophthalmic Hospital was newly opened at the Capital, the Maternity Hospital was amalgamated with the Women and Children's Hospital, and the plague camps at Aramboly and Shencottah and the weekly and bi-weekly dispensaries were abolished.

The total number of in-patients treated was 17,454 and of out-patients 5,64,886 against 15,574 and 6,15,861 respectively during the last year. The pupils entertained in 1079 in the midwifery class attached to the Victoria Jubilee Hospital at Quilon completed their course and passed the final examination. A fresh batch of 8 paid pupils and 3 volunteers are now undergoing training. A compounders' class of 20 pupils was opened in the General Hospital in April last.

Veterinary Hospital.—288 cases were admitted for treatment during the year. An outbreak of glanders appeared likely in the town in the early part of the year and precautionary measures were promptly taken. 2 horses and 5 ponies were destroyed. A small staff is retained for effectively dealing with such cases and preventing the spread of the disease.

20. **Public Instruction.**—The total number of schools in 1081 was 3,439 and the strength 1,93,446 as against 3,631 and 1,95,999 respectively in the year previous.

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